

## **APPENDIX A**

June 2009

### **TABLE FOR CONVERTING VOLUME TO WEIGHT OF VARIOUS MATERIALS, TO BE USED FOR ESTIMATING MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE TONNAGES**

*(Use these numbers as a guide when weight  
data is not available for recycled materials.)*

#### **PLASTIC**

HDPE (whole, uncrushed)  
1 cubic yard = 30 lbs.  
HDPE (flattened by hand)  
1 cubic yard = 50 lbs.  
PET (whole, uncrushed)  
1 cubic yard = 40 lbs.

#### **CORRUGATED CARDBOARD**

Uncompacted, flattened  
1 cubic yard = 200 lbs.  
Compacted  
1 cubic yard = 500 lbs.

#### **NEWSPAPER**

Loose (no strings or bags)  
1 cubic yard = 400 lbs.  
Neatly stacked (tied w/string)  
1 cubic yard = 600 lbs.  
One 12" stack of bundled newspaper =  
35 lbs.  
Compacted  
Down stroke 750 lbs/cubic yard  
Horizontal 800 lbs/cubic yard

#### **OFFICE PAPER**

Uncompacted  
White or colored ledger, flat  
1 cubic yard = 400 lbs.  
  
Computer paper  
1 cubic yard = 600 lbs.

#### **MIXED PAPER**

Uncompacted  
Varies widely with content  
Ranges 50 to 500 lbs. per cubic yard

#### **GLASS**

Loose (whole bottles)  
1 cubic yard = 600 lbs.  
175 lbs. in one, 55 gallon drum  
Semi-crushed (manually broken)  
1 cubic yard = 1000 lbs.  
55 gallon drum = 300 lbs.  
Crushed, maximum size, 1 1/2" (mechanically  
broken)  
1 cubic yard = 1,800 lbs.  
550 lbs. in one, 55 gallon drum

#### **ALUMINUM CANS**

Whole:  
1 cubic yard = 70 lbs.  
One full grocery bag = 1.5 lbs.  
One large plastic garbage bag = 21 lbs  
Uncompacted 1 case (24 cans) = 0.8 lbs.  
Compacted (manually), Flattened:  
1 cubic yard = 250 lbs.

#### **FERROUS CANS (tin coated steel cans):**

Whole  
1 cubic yard = 150 lbs.  
Flattened  
1 cubic yard = 850 lbs.  
Whole  
1 case (6 cans) = 2.2 lbs

#### **MAJOR APPLIANCES:**

Air conditioner (room)  
1 unit = 64 lbs.  
Dishwashers  
1 unit = 92 lbs.  
Clothes Dryer  
1 unit = 130 lbs.  
Clothes Washer  
1 unit = 177 lbs.

## **MAJOR APPLIANCES (cont.):**

Ranges

1 unit = 181 lbs.

Refrigerator

1 unit = 267 lbs.

Water Heater

1 unit = 131 lbs.

## **ORGANIC MATERIALS**

Leaves (uncomposted & *uncompacted*)

1 cubic yards = 150 lbs.

13 cubic yards = 1 ton

Leaves (uncomposted & *compacted*)

1 cubic yard = 450 lbs.

4.4 cubic yards = 1 ton

Leaves (uncomposted & *vacuumed*)

1 cubic yard = 350 lbs.

5.7 cubic yards = 1 ton

Leaves (*composted*)

1 cubic yard = 550 lbs.

Composting reduces leaf volume 80%

Wood Chips

1 cubic yard = 500 lbs

4 cubic yards = 1 ton

Grass Clippings

1 cubic yard = 400 lbs.

5 cubic yards = 1 ton

Brush = 200 lbs cubic yard

## **OTHER MATERIALS**

Passenger car tires

1 tire = about 20 lbs.

110 tires = 1 ton

Truck tires

1 tire = 120 lbs.

17 tires = 1 ton

Car Battery

40 lbs. per unit

Food Waste (mixed)

1 cubic yard = 500 lbs.

Demolition Debris

1 cubic yard = 1250 lbs.

1.6 cubic yards = 1 ton

Trees & Brush

1 cubic yard = 300 lbs.

6.6 cubic yards = 1 ton

Foam rubber Mattress

1 mattress = 55 lbs.

Mixed Bulky Waste

1 cubic yard = 400 lbs.

5 cubic yards = 1 ton

Wood Pallets

1 pallet = 40 lbs. avg.

Wood Waste

1 cubic yard = 350 lbs.

5.7 cubic yards = 1 ton

Oil

1 gal. = 7 lbs

Monitors and TVs

50 lbs. per unit

Computers and peripherals

20 lbs. per unit

Mercury Lamps - Fluorescent

.1875 lbs. per linear foot

CFLs

.125 lbs. per unit

Mercury Thermostats

.4166 lbs. per unit

Other Mercury Devices

.25 lb. per unit

Batteries

1 lb. per unit

Intact PCB ballasts

3.5 lbs. per unit

Sodium Bulb

.58 lb. per unit

U Lamp = 2'

Circle Lamp = 2'

Gallon of Ash = 3 lbs

Propane Tank = 15 lbs

Box Batteries = 44 lbs

Christmas Tree = 15 lbs

Bricks/Demo Debris 1,250 lbs cy

Gaylord = 1 cy